

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-17 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9 and 17 are independent and are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed.

Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,841,740 to Fijita et al. (hereinafter, merely "Fijita") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,236,802 to Yamamoto. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“a control panel having respective controllers for automatic edit processing and preview processing to emulate a linearly accessible recording medium editor,
...
wherein a recorded file is reproduced when in automatic edit processing, and a virtual file list is prepared when in preview processing on the non-linearly accessible recording medium.” (emphases added)

As discussed in Applicant's December 2, 2005 reply to the August 11, 2005 Office Action, Fijita discloses an apparatus for recording editing data using digital video servers to read out data from a hard disk array where the head starting position and the length of data being recorded is in terms of data blocks. Fijita lacks the "feel" of editing on video tape. Using non-linearly accessible digital video servers of Fijita is awkward for a user accustomed to the linear editing using magnetic tape in a conventional VTR (VCR).

Yamamoto discloses an editing apparatus (1) that is "composed by connecting a playback side video cassette recorder (VCR) (5) and a recording side VCR (6) to a personal computer (3) in whose hard disk unit (2) is stored an editing program." Col. 3, lines 20-23. Indeed, Yamamoto is directed to using a personal computer to edit linear magnetic tape on a VCR.

Yamamoto is a system that edits video tape, which is a linearly accessible medium, on a VCR using a personal computer. However, Yamamoto edits/reproduces a linearly accessible medium using linear accessible medium parameters. Editing on a non-linearly accessible medium uses different parameters to achieve a similar result.

It is the "feel" of operating on linearly accessible medium when actually operating on non-linearly accessible medium that the present invention achieves.

An example of a control panel of the present invention is illustrated in FIG. 2 that enables recoding/reproducing editing on non-linearly accessible medium using a control panel having buttons familiar in linearly accessible recording media. An example of operation is illustrated in FIG. 15. In the preview reproduction processing, a virtual file list (VFL) for preview to sequentially reproduce data from the preroll point to the postroll point set at respective material

data on the basis of this VFL for preview. Preview processing reproduces material to display images based on VFL for preview to and enable preview reproduction.

Moreover, in the automatic editing processing, such an approach is employed to prepare VFL to sequentially reproduce data from the preroll point to the postroll point in accordance with editing points set at respective material data on the basis of this VFL to store the VFL as its editing result into a file management section. That is, file management is controlled to prepare VFL on the basis of in points and out points set every respective material data. In this case, in the automatic editing processing, unlike the above-described preview reproduction processing, the VFL file is stored into memory or the HDD included within the file management section as editing result. Page 29, line 2 to page 31, line 18 and FIGS. 2 and 15.

An advantage of the present invention is that the first and second time entries provide a user with a feel that is different from that of Fijita. The present invention provides an apparatus that prepares file editing information from a non-linearly accessible recording media that seems to the user more like the linear editing of a conventional VTR than that of Fijita. That is, the editing processing using digital video servers of Fijita is awkward for a user accustomed to the linear editing using a conventional VTR. Page 40, line 12 to page 41, line 6.

For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 9 and 17 are also believed to be patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.


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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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